

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application:

1. (Original) A method of making an implantable bearing for an orthopaedic prosthesis, comprising the steps of:

providing a first layer constructed of a polymer;

providing a second layer constructed of a copolymer comprising ethylene and an acrylate;

securing said first layer to said second layer so as to create a composite; and

forming said composite into a predetermined shape of said implantable bearing.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of exposing said first layer to a dose of radiation so as to crosslink said polymer.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second layer providing step comprises providing a copolymer comprising ethylene and methyl methacrylate.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second layer providing step comprises providing a copolymer comprising ethylene and methyl acrylate.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second layer providing step comprises providing a copolymer comprising ethylene and ethyl acrylate.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second layer providing step comprises providing a copolymer comprising ethylene and butyl methacrylate.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second layer providing step comprises providing a copolymer comprising ethylene and ethyl methacrylate.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said securing step and said forming step are performed contemporaneously.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said securing step comprises the step of compression molding said first layer and said second layer to one another.

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10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said forming step comprises forming said composite into an acetabular bearing which is adapted to be implanted into an acetabulum of a patient.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said forming step comprises forming said composite into a glenoid bearing which is adapted to be implanted into a glenoid of a patient.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said forming step comprises forming said composite into a tibial bearing which is adapted to be implanted into a tibia of a patient.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said forming step comprises forming an articulating surface in said first layer.

14. - 37. (Cancelled)